

mischievous pranks or open rebelliousness that the children dare not display to those whom they fear more, or love more. He pays the penalty of far more than his own faults. Yet there will of course be greater justice and a keener sense of reality in such reactions among older children, than there is in the like situation with little children in the home or the nursery school. The hated or despised teacher may be getting more than his deserts, but the children's attitude will as a rule not be altogether without reason. With very young children, the process may be entirely subjective.

Many an excellent nurse suffers under it, with a querulous child and an indulgent mother.

After the sixth year or so, however, the child's attitudes towards adults become slowly more stabilised, in the same way as his feelings towards other children. And as his most acute unconscious conflicts towards his parents die down, with the onset of the latency period of sexual development, his actual ambivalence grows less intense, and it becomes easier for him to enjoy a more moderate range of feelings towards most of the adults with whom he comes in contact.

Much of the, foregoing applies primarily to *individual* ambivalence of feeling towards adults, although it holds good of the group phenomenon too. But there is another thread of development which is specifically expressed in *group* hostility to adults, and of the greatest possible significance, viz. the fact that the children learn to band together as *allies* against the power and prestige of the grown-ups.

This fact is again one of common observation, known to every school teacher and student of children's behaviour.

The feature of these particular records is the early age at which the process is seen occurring, and the consequent naivety and vividness of its manifestations.

But although the fact is a familiar and well-established one, it is again the psycho-analysts from whom we receive understanding of its meaning and value to the children themselves. Freud's own studies of the emotional attitudes of individuals towards parents and brothers and sisters first gave us light upon this banding together of the children against the adult. The more recent analysis of very young children has made it still clearer.

Even the happy and loved child suffers the sense of his own weakness and inferiority as against his parents and the grown-